

Warwick School Committee Minutes

Open Session

Meeting of October 9, 2007

The Warwick School Committee met in Open Session at Toll Gate High School, on Tuesday, October 9, 2007. The Chair called the meeting to order at 5:50 p.m. with the following in attendance:

COMMITTEE

Christopher Friel, Chairperson

Lucille Mota-Costa, Vice Chair

Bethany Furtado, Clerk [present 6:00 p.m.]

Joyce L. Andrade

Paul Cannistra [present at 6:05 p.m.]

ADMINISTRATION

Peter J. Horoschak, Superintendent

Leonard Flood, Director of Business Affairs

Richard D'Agostino, Director Special Services

Dr. Victor Mercurio, Director of Secondary Education

Rosemary Healey, Esq., Director of Compliance & Human Resources

MOTION 2007-304: Moved by Ms. Andrade, seconded by Ms. Mota-Costa, to go into closed session for discussion and/or action regarding those items of business exempt from open meetings under General Laws of Rhode Island 42-46-5(a)(1), (a)(2) and (a)(8).

MOTION PASSES (3-0)

Christopher Friel - Aye Lucille Mota-Costa - Aye

Joyce L. Andrade – Aye Bethany Furtado – absent for vote

Paul Cannistra – absent for vote

Meeting reconvened at 7:05 p.m.

Robert T. Bushell, Director of Elementary Education

David E. Small, Director of Buildings and Grounds

Approval of Minutes:

**MOTION 2007-305: Moved by Mr. Cannistra, seconded by Ms. Furtado,
to approve the Open Minutes for September 11, 2007.**

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

Christopher Friel - Aye Lucille Mota-Costa - Aye

Joyce L. Andrade – Aye Bethany Furtado – Aye

Paul Cannistra - Aye

**MOTION 2007-306: Moved by Ms. Furtado, seconded by Mr. Cannistra,
to approve the Executive Minutes for September 11, 2007.**

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

Christopher Friel - Aye Lucille Mota-Costa - Aye

Joyce L. Andrade – Aye Bethany Furtado – Aye

Paul Cannistra - Aye

Approval of Transfers:

MOTION 2007-307: Moved by Mrs. Andrade, seconded by Mrs. Furtado, to approve the transfers presented to the Committee.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

Christopher Friel - Aye Lucille Mota-Costa - Aye

Joyce L. Andrade – Aye Bethany Furtado – Aye

Paul Cannistra - Aye

Warwick School Committee Minutes

Open Session

Meeting of October 9, 2007 page -2-

Approval of Warrants:

MOTION 2007-308: Moved by Mrs. Furtado, seconded by Mrs. Andrade, to approve the Warrants presented to the Committee.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

Christopher Friel - Aye Lucille Mota-Costa - Aye

Joyce L. Andrade – Aye Bethany Furtado – Aye

Paul Cannistra - Aye

Professional Personnel Items

Appointments:

MOTION 2007-309: Moved by Mrs. Andrade, seconded by Mrs. Furtado, to approve the appointments of Debra Mitchell, 3/5 school

nurse/teacher, step 4, pending receipt of State and National BCI; Fred Morris, Science Department Head at Toll Gate; Janice Conklin, Science Department Chair at Winman; Linda McPhillips-Bush, business teacher, step 4, pending receipt of State and National BCI; Michael Walsh, English teacher, step 2, pending receipt of State and National BCI; Matthew Walsh, English teacher, step 2, pending receipt of State and National BCI; Matthew Blackburn, English teacher, category 1, step 2; and Jewel Clavin, English teacher, step 1, pending declination of appointment.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

Christopher Friel - Aye Lucille Mota-Costa - Aye

Joyce L. Andrade – Aye Bethany Furtado – Aye

Paul Cannistra - Aye

Leave of absence:

MOTION 2007-310: Moved by Mrs. Andrade, seconded by Mrs. Furtado, that the request for a sabbatical leave by Lisa Gallo Rajotte, elementary art teacher at Lippitt, be approved for the 2008-2009 school year.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

Christopher Friel - Aye Lucille Mota-Costa - Aye

Joyce L. Andrade – Aye Bethany Furtado – Aye

Paul Cannistra - Aye

Retirements/resignation:

MOTION 2007-311: Moved by Mrs. Andrade, seconded by Mrs. Furtado, that the retirement of Leona Cruz, special educator at

Pilgrim, be accepted, effective September 28, 2007; and that the retirement of Alfred Tanner, Technology Education Department Head at Warwick Veterans, be accepted, effective October 12, 2007; and that the resignation of Christine Reynolds, elementary guidance counselor at Wyman, be accepted, effective October 12, 2007.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

Christopher Friel - Aye Lucille Mota-Costa - Aye

Joyce L. Andrade – Aye Bethany Furtado – Aye

Paul Cannistra - Aye

Classified Personnel Items:

Appointments:

MOTION 2007-312: Moved by Mrs. Andrade, seconded by Mrs. Furtado, that the appointment of Maria Matera, teacher assistant, special services, be approved and that the appointment of Laura Wiggin, teacher assistant, special services, be approved.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

Christopher Friel - Aye Lucille Mota-Costa - Aye

Joyce L. Andrade – Aye Bethany Furtado – Aye

Paul Cannistra - Aye

Open Session

Meeting of October 9, 2007 page -3-

Resignation

MOTION 2007-313: Moved by Mrs. Andrade, seconded by Mrs. Furtado, that the resignation of Joanne Botts, teacher assistant, Warwick Neck Elementary, be accepted effective September 28, 2007.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

Christopher Friel - Aye Lucille Mota-Costa - Aye

Joyce L. Andrade – Aye Bethany Furtado – Aye

Paul Cannistra - Aye

Coaching appointment:

MOTION 2007-314: Moved by Mrs. Andrade, seconded by Mrs. Furtado, that the appointment of Richard Marrese, assistant coach, girls' soccer (Pilgrim) be approved for one year only.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

Christopher Friel - Aye Lucille Mota-Costa - Aye

Joyce L. Andrade – Aye Bethany Furtado – Aye

Paul Cannistra - Aye

Gorton/Aldrich Trip to Quebec City April 2008:

MOTION 2007-315: Moved by Mrs. Andrade, seconded by Mrs. Furtado, to approve the Gorton/Aldrich Trip to Quebec City in April

2008 [April 12th to 15th].

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

Christopher Friel - Aye Lucille Mota-Costa - Aye

Joyce L. Andrade – Aye Bethany Furtado – Aye

Paul Cannistra - Aye

Toll Gate High School Trip to Orlando, FL in April 2008:

MOTION 2007-316: Moved by Mrs. Furtado, seconded by Mrs. Andrade, to approve the Toll Gate High School Trip to Orlando, FL in April 2008 [April 17th to 20th].

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

Christopher Friel - Aye Lucille Mota-Costa - Aye

Joyce L. Andrade – Aye Bethany Furtado – Aye

Paul Cannistra - Aye

Special Education Advisory Committee 2006-07 Annual Report – presented by Ms. Bisard.

Additional Special Education Teacher Position at Winman: Dr. Richard D’Agostino reported there is a need for an additional special educator to cover the co-op literacy classes at Winman Junior High School due to enrollment from out of district and three students whose scheduled classes were upgraded. This is a full time position.

MOTION 2007-317: Moved by Mrs. Furtado, seconded by Mrs.

Andrade, to approve the additional special educator position at Winman.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

Christopher Friel - Aye Lucille Mota-Costa - Aye

Joyce L. Andrade – Aye Bethany Furtado – Aye

Paul Cannistra - Aye

Discussion of advertising policy: Ms. Healey reported she had been asked to research types of advertising policies in school departments throughout the country. We are hoping and recommending an advertising policy which will be adopted by the School Committee, particularly as revenues become scarcer. She said that policies differ in every district, and felt that it was important for us to have a policy that sets forth criteria and approval process. Mrs. Furtado volunteered to work on this policy, which will be presented at the November meeting.

Warwick School Committee Minutes

Open Session

Meeting of October 9, 2007 page -4-

Extension of Committee Reports: Ms. Healey asked that the deadline for the committee reports that are outlined in the WTU and School Committee Agreement of August 8, 2006 be extended to December 3, 2007.

MOTION 2007-318: Moved by Mr. Cannistra, seconded by Mrs. Furtado, to extend the Committee Reports to December 3rd.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

Christopher Friel - Aye Lucille Mota-Costa - Aye

Joyce L. Andrade – Aye Bethany Furtado – Aye

Paul Cannistra - Aye

Performance Contracting Preliminary Audit Presentation –

Presentation by Leo McNeil of Trane – Mr. McNeil said that performance contracting enables buildings to be comfortable, healthy and efficient with proper air quality and ventilation as long as systems are monitored and maintained appropriately. A feasibility assessment (audit) was performed on several buildings, Scott, Norwood, Hoxsie Elementary, Gorton Junior, Toll Gate, Warwick Technical |Center, and the administration building. Based on the feasibility assessment, \$775,000 could be saved, by simply installing more efficient equipment. This program functions as a self-financing mechanism where savings are used to pay for upgrades and improvements provided by Trane. It works like a mortgage; you use the savings to pay for the cost. If Trane guarantees savings and the savings don't occur, Trane will write a short-fall check. This only applies to things within its control. For example, if the school day was extended and more electricity was used, Trane would not cover that increased cost. The new systems and machines have to be properly monitored and maintained. The cost and scope of work of

the project would be laid out in an audit prior to starting any construction or upgrades. The question was brought up about the legality of the School Committee taking on a debt without approval of the City. A new subcommittee will conduct a study before it decides whether to ask the company to conduct an in-depth cost and need evaluation.

MOTION 2007-319: Moved by Mrs. Andrade, seconded by Mrs. Furtado, to approve the formation of a performance subcommittee.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

Christopher Friel - Aye Lucille Mota-Costa - Aye

Joyce L. Andrade – Aye Bethany Furtado – Aye

Paul Cannistra - Aye

School Lunch Advisory/Health & Wellness Committee Modification - Chairman Friel recommended that one member of the School Lunch Advisory Committee sit on the Wellness Committee and vice versa. The appointment would be made by the Director of Business.

MOTION 2007-320: Moved by Mr. Friel, seconded by Mrs. Andrade, to approve the recommendation.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

Christopher Friel - Aye Lucille Mota-Costa - Aye

Joyce L. Andrade – Aye Bethany Furtado – Aye

Paul Cannistra - Aye

City Ordinance – School Grounds: Chairman Friel said that although there is an ordinance in place prohibiting people on school grounds after hours, no time frame has been specified by the School Committee. He suggested setting the time frame from 7:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m. but was opened to suggestions. Ms. Andrade suggested dusk to dawn, and then you wouldn't have to change the hours with

Warwick School Committee Minutes

Open Session

Meeting of October 9, 2007 page -5-

seasonal changes. The question was raised about people who use the Pilgrim Track in the evening and early morning. It was recommended that walkers would be allowed on the track until the lights went out, which is usually around 9:00 p.m. The police will have to use their discretion.

MOTION 2007-321: Moved by Mrs. Andrade, seconded by Mrs. Furtado, to set the hours from dawn to dusk.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

Christopher Friel - Aye Lucille Mota-Costa - Aye

Joyce L. Andrade – Aye Bethany Furtado – Aye

Paul Cannistra - Aye

Bus Maintenance Committee report: Mrs. Andrade said she expected to present a full report in November.

BDB Special committee Meetings 2nd reading:

MOTION 2007-322: Moved by Mrs. Furtado, seconded by Mr. Cannistra, to approve the second reading of Policy BDB Special Committee Meetings.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

Christopher Friel - Aye Lucille Mota-Costa - Aye

Joyce L. Andrade – Aye Bethany Furtado – Aye

Paul Cannistra - Aye

BDC – Executive Sessions – 2nd reading:

MOTION 2007-323: Moved by Mr. Cannistra, seconded by Ms. Mota-Costa, to approve the second reading of Policy BDC Executive Sessions.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

Christopher Friel - Aye Lucille Mota-Costa - Aye

Joyce L. Andrade – Aye Bethany Furtado – Aye

Paul Cannistra - Aye

BDDB – Agenda Format 2nd reading:

MOTION 2007-324: Moved by Mr. Cannistra, seconded by Mrs. Furtado, to approve the second reading of Policy BDDB Agenda Format.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

Christopher Friel - Aye Lucille Mota-Costa - Aye

Joyce L. Andrade – Aye Bethany Furtado – Aye

Paul Cannistra - Aye

BDDG – Minutes – 2nd reading:

Mrs. Andrade had concerns that Minutes not approved by the School Committee being made available five days prior to the regular meeting might cause confusion if there are corrections made at the meeting. It was brought to the School Committee's attention that the policy states "If a resident" wishes ...", and that it should be changed to "individual."

MOTION 2007-325: Moved by Ms. Mota-Costa, seconded by Mrs. Andrade, to amend Policy BDDG changing word "resident" to "individual".

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

Christopher Friel - Aye Lucille Mota-Costa - Aye

Joyce L. Andrade – Aye Bethany Furtado – Aye

Paul Cannistra - Aye

MOTION 2007-326: Moved by Mrs. Furtado, seconded by Ms. Mota-Costa, to approve the second reading of Policy BDDG with amendment.

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

Christopher Friel - Aye Lucille Mota-Costa - Aye

Joyce L. Andrade – Aye Bethany Furtado – Aye

Paul Cannistra - Aye

Warwick School Committee Minutes

Open Session

Meeting of October 9, 2007 page -6-

Public Comment:

George Landri questioned limiting people who want to speak to 3 minutes. Chairman Friel said there is no provision that requires public comment on the agenda, and this School Committee has approved guidelines regarding commenting on new business or unfinished business with each person having two minutes and one trip to the microphone. Questions should be directed only to School Committee members and not administrators. Mr. Landri commented on field trips and the collection of money, and commenting that he has been asked to go back and get receipts. Chairman Friel said there are no guidelines regarding this and it should be addressed. Susan, from Veterans, asked the committee to reinstate the language technicians and spoke at length about their necessity and their positions. Darlene Netcoh said that a grievance has been filed on behalf of the English Department regarding the loss of their aides, and that two grievances have been filed by the Foreign Language Department. She also spoke about announcements coming on first period of the day, and suggested that they should be done during advisory period. Mr. Ginolfi said that announcements are very disruptive, especially when you are starting the class and you have announcements going on. He hoped it could be moved to advisory period. He also questioned the time frame for public comment. Michelle Landri expressed her concern about the BMI testing of

students, and the accuracy of them. A gentleman from the public was concerned about the school buses at Robinson School, saying that the students are walking in between buses and the bus door is opening on the opposite side of the curb. Chairman Friel said that Mr. Small will review this matter.

**MOTION 2007-327: Moved by Mrs. Furtado, seconded by Ms. Mota-Costa,
to adjourn.**

MOTION PASSES (5-0)

Christopher Friel - Aye Lucille Mota-Costa - Aye

Joyce L. Andrade – Aye Bethany Furtado – Aye

Paul Cannistra - Aye

Meeting adjourned: 9:05 p.m.

Bethany Furtado, Clerk

Betsey Snipes, Secretary